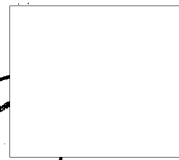
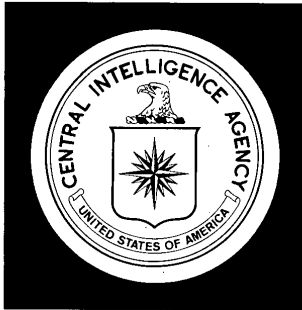




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The President's Daily Brief

October 19, 1974

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

October 19, 1974

Table of Contents

Egypt-USSR: Cairo news media play Fahmi visit to Moscow as victory for Egypt's independent foreign policy. (Page 1)

Cyprus: Greek fears of new Turkish attack on Cyprus appear exaggerated. (Page 2)

South Korea: President Pak upset over American criticism of his government. (Page 3)

Portugal: West European Socialists trying to help counterparts in Portugal. (Page 4)

Note: USSR-Morocco (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

Egyptian news media have treated Foreign Minister Fahmi's visit to Moscow as a triumph for Egypt's independent foreign policy.

Fahmi's visit and the announcement that Soviet party chief Brezhnev intends to come to Cairo in January have brought an outpouring of praise for Moscow from the Cairo media and expressions of "deep" friendship. The press has heaped gratitude on the Soviets for helping Egypt in some of the "gravest moments of its history." At the same time, the Egyptians have lost no opportunity to reaffirm their intention to maintain foreign and domestic policies independent of the Soviets.

The Egyptians see Soviet acquiescence in a Cairo summit as a vindication of Sadat's refusal to bow to Soviet pressures. The Egyptian line is that Moscow restored amicable relations because they are in its strategic interests. Cairo now appears almost cocky in its belief that all superpower roads in the Middle East lead through Egypt.

The Egyptians undoubtedly intend this as a message to the US as well. They have little fear at this point of US interference in Egyptian affairs, but they probably see the rapprochement with Moscow as helpful in pressing the US toward further movement both in peace negotiations and in economic assistance for Egypt.

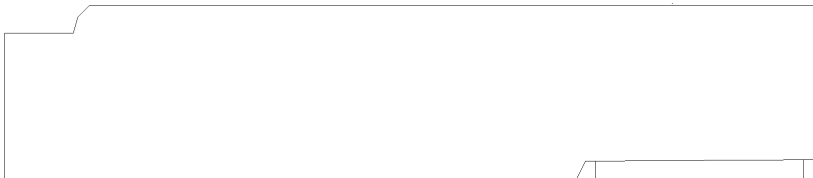
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CYPRUS

An alert of Turkish paramilitary Jandarma units and Turkish reconnaissance flights over Cyprus during the last few days have led to Greek fears that the Turks are planning another offensive on Cyprus. We do not think the evidence points to a Turkish attack.

The Jandarma Command in Ankara brought its units throughout Turkey to an "alert posture" on Wednesday. The units apparently remain in an advanced state of readiness. There is no sign, however, that regular Turkish forces have been alerted.

Also beginning on Wednesday, Turkish reconnaissance flights over Greek Cypriot sectors of Cyprus have increased daily. Acting Cypriot President Clerides has complained about these to Ambassador Crawford and expressed anxiety about Turkish intentions.



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An unprovoked Turkish offensive to rescue Turkish Cypriots in Greek Cypriot zones or to push Turkish lines forward does not appear likely any time soon. Most Turkish Cypriots have already found their way into the Turkish-held portion of the island, with the tacit acceptance of Greek Cypriot authorities. In addition,

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the location of permanent fortifications that the Turks are building across the island suggests they do not intend to expand the territory under their control.

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SOUTH KOREA

President Pak is upset over continuing American criticism of his government, but is unlikely to allow his dissatisfaction to become a public matter [redacted]

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Pak's ill temper results in part from:

--heavy US Congressional and media criticism earlier this year of his harsh repression of student and Christian critics;

--the sharp cut in military aid imposed by Congress in September;

--reports that his opponents are taking advantage of [redacted] his regime's concurrent effort to soften its repressive image to press their attack.

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The South Korean leader, however, does not want any open quarrel with the US. Seoul has few allies, and South Korea's attempts to open up contacts with the Soviet Union and China have produced little as yet. Moreover, the South Koreans are relying heavily on the US for support during the current session of the UN General Assembly.

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PORTUGAL

West European Socialist leaders are rallying round to help the Portuguese Socialists keep from being outdistanced by the Communist Party.

West Germany's Willy Brandt arrives in Lisbon today for a three-day visit. Swedish Prime Minister Palme and Norwegian Foreign Minister Frydenlund, accompanied by trade union representatives, will visit Portugal from October 25 to 27 and are expected to offer aid.

The Portuguese Socialists have appealed to their French counterparts to persuade the French Communist Party to intercede with the Portuguese Communists and suggest a softer, less aggressive line; the French Socialists are willing to oblige and believe their Communist counterparts will be equally anxious to prevent "Stalinist" behavior by the Portuguese Communists. Whether the French Communists have any real influence over the Portuguese Communist Party, however, is open to question.

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